

We claim:

Sub A1. 1. A method of selecting a proxy server storing a web resource from among a plurality of proxy servers, said method comprising the steps of:

5 receiving a request for said web resource;  
determining if said web resource is a predefined file type; and  
redirecting said web request to a proxy server associated with said file type.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said predefined file type has an average size that exceeds a predefined threshold.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said redirecting step further comprises the step of accessing a proxy selection table that associates said file type to a proxy server.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said redirecting step further comprises the step of redirecting said request to a given proxy server based on the recent history of client request patterns.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of analyzing the recent history of client request patterns.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of assigning  $P \times 1/h$  of the available proxy servers to serve heavy file types, where  $P$  is the total number of proxy servers and the heavy file types account for a fraction  $1/h$  of the total load.

7. A method of selecting a proxy server storing a web resource from among a plurality of proxy servers, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for said web resource;  
determining if said web resource is served by a domain having a traffic volume

that exceeds a predefined threshold; and

redirecting said web request to a proxy server associated with said domain.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein said predefined threshold is based on a maximum normalized daily load.

9. The method according to claim 7, wherein said redirecting step further comprises the step of accessing a proxy selection table that associates said domain to a proxy server.

10. The method according to claim 7, wherein said redirecting step further comprises the step of redirecting said request to a given proxy server based on the recent history of client request patterns.

11. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of analyzing the recent history of client request patterns.

12. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of sorting heavy domains in increasing order of their average file sizes, splitting said sorted list into  $P \times (1-h)$  partitions of equal load, and assigning one partition to each of the remaining proxy servers, where  $P$  is the total number of proxy servers and the heavy file types account for a fraction  $1/h$  of the total load.

13. A system for selecting a proxy server storing a web resource from among a plurality of proxy servers, said system comprising:

a memory for storing computer readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to:

receive a request for said web resource;

determine if said web resource is a predefined file type; and

redirect said web request to a proxy server associated with said file type.

14. The system according to claim 13, wherein said predefined file type has an average size that exceeds a predefined threshold.

15. The system according to claim 13, wherein said memory further includes a proxy selection table that associates said file type to a proxy server.

16. The system according to claim 13, wherein said processor is further configured to redirect said request to a given proxy server based on the recent history of client request patterns.

17. A system for selecting a proxy server storing a web resource from among a plurality of proxy servers, said system comprising:

a memory for storing computer readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to:

receive a request for said web resource;

determine if said web resource is served by a domain having a traffic volume that exceeds a predefined threshold; and

redirect said web request to a proxy server associated with said domain.

18. The system according to claim 17, wherein said predefined threshold is based on a maximum normalized daily load.

19. The system according to claim 17, wherein said memory further includes a proxy selection table that associates said domain to a proxy server.

20. The system according to claim 17, wherein said processor is further configured to redirect said request to a given proxy server based on the recent history of client request patterns.

21. An article of manufacture for selecting a proxy server storing a web resource from among a plurality of proxy servers, comprising:

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 a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

- a step to receive a request for said web resource;
- a step to determine if said web resource is a predefined file type; and
- 5 a step to redirect said web request to a proxy server associated with said file type.

22. An article of manufacture for selecting a proxy server storing a web resource from among a plurality of proxy servers, comprising:

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 a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

- a step to receive a request for said web resource;
- a step to determine if said web resource is served by a domain having a traffic volume that exceeds a predefined threshold; and
- a step to redirect said web request to a proxy server associated with said domain.